DECLASSIFIED EXCISE

Department of State

TELEGRAM

E

95

CONFIDENTIAL

AN: D770132-1223

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUENOS 02792 152237Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 PC-01 OPR-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 MCT-01 /067 W
----------160947Z 098549 /12
P 152140Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0046

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 2792

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, AR
SUBJECT: ARGENTINE LEAGUE FOR RIGHTS OF MAN REPORTS FOUR ABDUCTED RELEASED, LEAGUE ACTIVITIES

REF: BUENOS AIRES 2580

1. FOUR MEN, INCLUDING A JOURNALIST AND TWO MEMBERS OF THE LEAGUE FOR THE RIGHTS OF MAN WHO WERE ABDUCTED ON APRIL 1 (REFTEL), HAVE BEEN RELEASED FROM A LOCAL POLICE STATION ON DIRECT ORDERS OF AN INTERIOR MINISTRY OFFICIAL. [redacted] SAID THAT THE FOUR WERE PICKED UP, HOODED AND TAKEN TO AN INTERROGATION CENTER WHERE THEY WERE ROUGHLY TREATED AND ASKED ABOUT THEIR POLITICAL ACTIVITIES. [redacted] SOME PROSTITUTES WHO HAD BEEN UNDER DETENTION IN THE POLICE STATION AND LATER RELEASED INFORMED HIM WHERE THE FOUR WERE BEING HELD. [redacted] COLONEL LUIS SULLIVAN, DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLICE AFFAIRS IN THE INTERIOR MINISTRY, WITH THE INFORMATION. SULLIVAN PROMPTLY CALLED THE POLICE STATION AND ORDERED THE MEN'S RELEASE.

B1, EC

B1, EC

B1, EC

2. [redacted] THE LEAGUE, WHICH OPERATES WITH 63 LAWYERS WORKING PART TIME AND WITHOUT PAY, HAS ABOUT 2,000 CASES OF DISAPPEARED AND DETAINED POLITICAL PRISONERS AT PRESENT. FOR EACH CASE THE LEAGUE COLLECTS TESTIMONY FROM THE

B1, EC

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BUENOS 02792 152237Z

PERSON'S FAMILY, FILES A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS AND SENDS TELEGRAMS

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
EVIEWED BY Rpschke DATE 4/20/82
ORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

DECLASSIFIED EXCISE

ON THE PERSON'S BEHALF TO PRESIDENT VIDELA, THE JUNTA, THE PAPAL NUNCIO, THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS, COMMANDER OF THE FIRST ARMY CORPS AND OTHER SELECTED OFFICIALS. ALTHOUGHT THE LEAGUE MAINTAINS CONTACT WITH A NUMBER OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED WITH HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS, THE LEAGUE HAS HAD VERY LITTLE SUCCESS IN TRACKING DOWN DISAPPEARED PERSONS[redacted] NEVERTHELESS, HE SAID, EVEN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY APPROACHED THE LEAGUE FOR INFORMATION ON THE DISAPPEARANCE CASE OF ARGENTINE PEACE COUNCIL MEMBER JORGE ALBERTO KREYNESS (ONE OF THE FOUR ABDUCTED APRIL 1 WHO HAS SINCE REAPPEARED) IN ORDER TO REPLY TO NUMEROUS INQUIRIES FROM ABROAD. HE ADDED THAT THE LEAGUE WORKS CLOSELY WITH THE RED CROSS AND HAS RECOMMENDED THE RED CROSS VISIT CERTAIN PRISONS AND CERTAIN PRISONERS, SUCH AS SOLARI IRIGOYEN IN RAWSON PRISON. [redacted] SOLARI IRIGOYEN APPEARED TO THE RED CROSS TO BE IN FAIR HEALTH AND HE WELCOMED THE VISIT PARTLY BECAUSE IT MEANT HE RECEIVED A SUBSTANTIAL MEAL THAT DAY.) B1,EC

3.[redacted] AS MANY AS 5,000 WRITS OF HABEAS CORPUS HAVE BEEN PRESENTED IN ARGENTINE COURTS IN THE LAST FOUR MONTHS. HE SAID MANY OF THOSE WHO APPEAR ON THE INTERIOR MINISTRY'S LIST OF PERSONS ARRESTED UNDER STATE OF SIEGE PROVISIONS WERE ORIGINALLY ABDUCTED BY UNIDENTIFIED ARMED MEN. IN MOST CASES [redacted] TO BE NAMED ON THE LISTS RELEASED BY INTERIOR MINISTRY SINCE JANUARY PROVIDES A CERTAIN GUARANTEE AGAINST FURTHER TORTURE OR DANGER OF DEATH[redacted] HE HAD NO INFORMATION ON THE CASE OF LEAGUE LAWYER TERESA ISRAEL WHO DISAPPEARED IN FEBRUARY. HE CONFIRMED THAT SHE IS THE ONLY LEAGUE LAWYER TO HAVE DISAPPEARED TO DATE. B1,EC B1,EC B1,EC

4. COMMENT: THE LEAGUE IS IDENTIFIED BY A NUMBER OF SOURCES AS A GROUP OF COMMUNIST LAWYERS WHO IN THE PAST HAVE CHIEFLY REPRESENTED LEFTIST, OR AS LEAGUE SAYS, "PROGRESSIVE THINKERS." LEAGUE IS APPARENTLY NOW ALSO TAKING ON DISAPPEARANCE CASES PRESENTED BY CONCERNED FAMILIES, BUT IT APPEARS THEY ARE HAVING NO MORE SUCCESS THAN OTHER ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED WITH PROBLEM, INCLUDING THE

CHURCH OR PERMANENT ASSEMBLY.[redacted] EAGER TO "WORK WITH" THE EMBASSY AND SUGGESTED FURTHER MEETINGS. EMBOFF THANKED[redacted] HIS INFORMATION (MUCH OF WHICH WAS PREVIOUSLY KNOWN) AND EXPLAINED FUNCTION OF EMBASSY IN REGARD TO HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION. EMBASSY FILES SHOW THAT[redacted] ARRESTED IN 1965 FOR PAINTING PCA (COMMUNIST PARTY OF ARGENTINA) SLOGANS ON WALLS, AND THAT OF THE FOUR MEN RELEASED WITH THE LEAGUE'S B1,EC B1,EC B1,EC

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

EXCISE

CONFIDENTIAL

ASSISTANCE-LEAGUE MEMBER ROBERTO ANTONIO DI VITA AND ARGENTINE PEACE COUNCIL MEMBER JORGE ALBERTO KREYNESS WERE ACTIVE WITH STUDENT GROUPS IN THE EARLY 1970S. BJ; EC

HILL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED